

Message Text

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73

ORIGIN L-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 EA-06 OIC-02 INT-05 EB-07

AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 /080 R

DRAFTED BY L:L/UNA:AMSURENA:MAB

APPROVED BY IO:RDMOREY

L/ARA - MR. GANTZ

ARA/ECP - MR. FAULKNER

IO/CMD - MR. KAHN

ARA/CAR - MR. HIGH

IO/UNP - MS. WILLIAMSON

EA/RA - MR. GALLAGHER

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O R 092124Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 108905

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECLA, OCON, XL, TD (WILLIAMS, ERIC E)

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL FOR CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR ECLA

REF: PORT OF SPAIN 1057

1. DEPT CONFIRMS THAT USDEL SHOULD TAKE POSITION THAT
PM WILLIAMS' PROPOSAL, REFTEL, REQUIRES CAREFUL STUDY.
SINCE PROPOSAL SEEMS DIRECTED AGAINST LATIN(S), USDEL
SHOULD PERMIT, IF POSSIBLE, LATINS TO OPPOSE THIS PROPOSAL.
NONETHELESS, USDEL SHOULD NOT HESITATE TO INDICATE THAT
WILLIAMS' PROPOSAL APPEARS TO INVOLVE EXCLUSIVE CARIBBEAN
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MEMBERSHIP AND THAT U.S. CANNOT CONCUR IN THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF ANY ECLA BODY WHICH BY ITS SPECIFIC TERMS OF REFERENCE
WOULD PRECLUDE U.S. PARTICIPATION (I.E. WOULD DENY U.S. ITS
RIGHTS OF MEMBERSHIP AS ECLA MEMBER).

2. FYI: THE U.S. IS NOT NECESSARILY OPPOSED TO THE CONCEPT OF A CARIBBEAN COUNCIL OF ECLA, AND ACCORDING REFTEL IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT WILLIAMS' PROPOSAL ENVISAGES ONLY CARIBBEAN PARTICIPATION ON SUCH A COUNCIL. THUS, ASSUMING PARTICIPATION ON CARIBBEAN COUNCIL OPEN TO ALL ECLA MEMBERS AND CARIBBEAN COUNCIL'S TERMS OF REFERENCE ARE NOT OBJECTIONABLE, U.S. MAY BE IN POSITION SUPPORT ITS CREATION. TERMS OF REFERENCE REPORTED REFTEL ("TO DEAL SPECIFICALLY WITH CARIBBEAN ISSUES AND TO EMBRACE ALL

CARIBBEAN GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES FROM BELIZE TO CAYENNE IRRESPECTIVE OF POLITICAL STATUS") COULD POSE PROBLEMS FOR U.S. INSOFAR AS THEY RELATE TO PUERTO RICO. SINCE WILLIAMS' PROPOSAL SEEMS HIGHLY POLITICAL IN ORIENTATION, DEPT WOULD PROBABLY NOT FAVOR SEEING PUERTO RICO WITHIN AMBIT OF COUNCIL'S TERMS OF REFERENCE, THOUGH IF COUNCIL CREATED, EXCLUSION PUERTO RICO FROM SCOPE OF ITS CONSIDERATION MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE. REGARDING PUERTO RICO MEMBERSHIP ON COUNCIL: PUERTO RICO IS INTEGRAL PART OF U.S.; HOWEVER, DUE TO ITS GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL TIES WITH REGION, AND DESIRES TO ASSOCIATE IN REGION, DEPT HAS AGREED TO CONSIDER SPONSORING PUERTO RICO MEMBERSHIP IN APPROPRIATE AND ESSENTIALLY CULTURAL, SOCIAL, TECHNICAL, OR ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS. ECLA IS THE TYPE OF ORGANIZATION WE HAVE GENERALLY HAD IN MIND. IF COUNCIL HOWEVER WOULD BE HIGHLY POLITICAL, DEPT WOULD NOT FAVOR PUERTO RICO MEMBERSHIP IN IT, AND THIS COULD IMPACT ON DEPT ATTITUDE TOWARD POSSIBLE PUERTO RICAN MEMBERSHIP IN ECLA.

3. PLEASE ADVISE DEPT OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS ON THIS ISSUE.
KISSINGER

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